

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 117

Introduced by Assembly Member Cohn

January 13, 2005

An act to add Section 14133.06 to the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to Medi-Cal.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 117, as introduced, Cohn. Medi-Cal: treatment authorization requests.

Existing law provides for the Medi-Cal program, which is administered by the State Department of Health Services and pursuant to which health care services are provided to qualified low-income persons.

Under existing law, one of the utilization controls to which services are subject under the Medi-Cal program is the treatment authorization request process, which is approval by a department consultant of a specified service in advance of the rendering of that service based upon a determination of medical necessity.

This bill would require the department to establish a centralized treatment authorization request operation or to standardize the criteria to be used in the approval of the requests.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 14133.06 is added to the Welfare and
- 2 Institutions Code, to read:
- 3 14133.06. The department shall do both of the following:

- 1 (a) Establish a centralized treatment authorization request field
- 2 office operation.
- 3 (b) Establish standardized criteria for the approval of treatment
- 4 authorization requests.